

Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life
Held on
September 25, 1998 AD 131 Loyola Campus

Present: Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Mr. R. Côté, Mr. H. Zarins, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms A. Siano, Ms A. Kerby, Mr. R. Boncore, Ms A. Ghadban, Ms. T. Ryan, Mr. M. Logan, Mr. D. Hinton, Mr. J. Johnson, Mr. C. Dennis, Mr. W. Curran, Mr. R. MacIver, Ms L. Lipscombe, Mr. M. Bujold, Ms L. Toscano

Absent with Regrets: Dr. F. Shaver, Ms C. Boujaklian, Ms A. Leger, Ms J. Deri, Mr. R. Green, Ms A Vroom

Delegates: Ms G. Panetta represented Ms K. Hedrich

Guests: Ms J. Brathwaite, Mr. C. Emond

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was carried.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Boisvert asked Council members to introduce themselves. He noted the appointment of Dr. Fran Shaver as faculty representative for a two year term. Dr. Boisvert took the opportunity to welcome Council to this new academic year. He also noted that the Vice-Rector, Services, Mr. Emond, was in attendance. He said how pleased he was to be back and he thanked Roger Côté, Angie Siano and Jacquie Brathwaite for their hard work in their "acting" capacities. He noted that Ms Siano's mandate as Acting Director of Health Services had been extended to December 98 and thanked her for accepting.

The Orientation programme was a great success. Dr. Boisvert noted that the second day of orientation had approximately 1200 students in attendance, the largest session ever. He thanked Ms Jocelyne Cottier for a most successful orientation. He also took the opportunity to congratulate the CSU on their orientation.

Dr. Boisvert noted that this weekend was "Homecoming" and that the annual Shuffle followed by the Rector's reception was today. He encouraged Council to participate in these important events.

Dr. Boisvert informed Council of some administrative changes. A re-grouping of similar services/programmes dealing with some of the immediate material needs of students has resulted in a new area called Socio-Economic Services under the responsibility of Mr. R. Côté. This new service is made up of Financial Aid & Awards, Residence and the New Student Programme. This change will provide a proper home for these services as well as enhance the effectiveness and supervision of those areas.

Dr. Boisvert announced the creation of the new position of Coordinator, Student Affairs. With the merger of the positions of Dean of Students and Associate Vice-Rector, Student Life, Dr. Boisvert announced that the need for such a person has become critical and will only serve to better meet the needs of student associations and student leaders. Dr. Boisvert informed Council he hoped to proceed with the appointment within the coming weeks.

Dr. Boisvert informed Council that he had mandated Dr. Graub and Ms Siano to prepare a report which will address the integration of their two services. The report should be available by the end of December. Dr. Boisvert emphasized that such an integration does not in any way, entail the disappearance of either service, although it might mean they operate within a different administrative or managerial structure.

Dr. Boisvert reiterated how important CCSL is in ensuring the quality of student life at the University. This is a forum where the student voice is always heard loud and clear. He looked forward to a busy and productive year.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of MAY 22, 1998

As some members of Council had not as yet read the minutes, it was decided to defer the approval of the May 22nd minutes to the October 23rd meeting of CCSL.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

4.1 Relationship between CCSL and Board of Governors

Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the May 22, 1998 minutes (item 8.1). Mr. Feldman had expressed concern that issues Council wished to bring to the attention of the Board of Governors were at the "discretion" of the Rector. The Dean of Students was to follow-up on this issue and report back to CCSL at the September meeting. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that he had met with Dr. Lowy and discussed this issue. The CCSL mandate states that "...Council derives its authority from the University Board of Governors, and reports directly to the Board through the Rector." Dr. Boisvert informed Council that Dr. Lowy confirmed that he will gladly raise any issue from CCSL to the Board of Governors. Dr. Boisvert addressed the issue of the CCSL mandate. He felt perhaps it was time to revisit the membership of CCSL to better reflect the many changes that have evolved over the past few years. He suggested that at that time this issue could also be re-examined. Council was in agreement.

5. REPORTS

Last year Council agreed that the Directors would submit written reports to CCSL only once a semester. As there was no objection to continuing this practice, Dr. Boisvert confirmed that written reports would be submitted by the Directors at the November and March CCSL meetings. It was also suggested to continue the practice of having a presentation made by a Student Services area as well as a presentation from one of the CCSL observers at each meeting. Mr. Curran, Director of the Library, offered to present at the October meeting. Ms Ghadban suggested a presentation by the Student Advocate Programme (a service of Advocacy & Support Services). Council was in agreement.

6. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

6.1 Student Services Year end 1997-1998

Dr. Boisvert invited Mr. Côté to address this issue. Mr. Côté gave a brief overview of the budget statements (Student Services & Athletics) distributed to Council. He explained that as Student Services has an approved three year budget (1997-2000), the Student Services fee of \$8.83 is "locked in" for that duration. He explained that as Recreation & Athletics receives a portion of the Student Services fee (\$1.93) directly, their budget has been separated from Student Services. It was noted that due to many factors including staffing vacancies, the Athletics "claw-back" and a budgeted surplus (fees in trust), Student Services had a sizable surplus. Mr. Côté was happy to report that the University has allowed Student Services to carry over that surplus and a Student Services Appropriation Account has been opened to receive this money. It was also noted that Recreation & Athletics had a year-end deficit. Mr. Zarins spoke briefly to that issue, explaining that the deficit was a direct result of "ice-storm" expenses, as well as a Purchasing Department costly error. He noted also that the deficit included the "claw-back" of \$123,168. Mr. Côté reiterated that the budget was tabled at CCSL for Council's information only. Mr. Hinton asked for clarification re surpluses vs deficits vis-a-vis the different departments. It was explained that although Student Services is an integrated budget, the various Services/Departments are expected to be fiscally responsible. The Directors are responsible for ensuring their departments are within their budgets. However an integrated budget allows money to be moved quickly within Student Services in order to address student needs or emergencies. Dr. Boisvert agreed that the Directors would make recommendations to Council on the use of the surplus.

Dr. Graub announced there will be a "Get Hooked on Learning Fair" on the Mezzanine, October 1st. The fair will give information on the many resources available to help students succeed as well as offering some musical surprises!! Dr. Graub asked that we all be good ambassadors and help publicize this important event.

Ms Siano announced that Health Services now had brochures available on healthy eating habits (including recipes), weight management and strategies to handle stress. These brochures were written and put together by the Health Services Staff and are proving very popular!!

7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR, MS KERBY, RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD

Ms Kerby informed Council that the first meeting of the Board would be October 2nd. She explained it is a parity board made up of students, faculty, and staff, elected and appointed. She briefly gave a breakdown of the membership and the election/appointment procedures. She noted that the board has only been in existence for one year. Therefore, although the terms of office are normally for one year, for continuity purposes, the faculty and staff members have agreed to sit for another year. Council had no objection. Ms Kerby also addressed an issue from the May 98 CCSL meeting, concerning the selection and elimination of sports. She informed Council that Mr. Zarins had done extensive research over the summer and this issue would be discussed at the October 2nd Board meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Issues to be Considered by Council

Mr. Hinton asked when work on the CCSL mandate and membership would begin. Dr. Boisvert confirmed it would be on the agenda for the October meeting.

Mr. Hinton also felt it would be good idea to resurrect the item "Student Life Issues" on the agenda. Council was in agreement.

Mr. Emond referred Council to a letter by an alumnus that appeared in the student newspapers concerning the deplorable state of the Hall Building and university equipment. He explained that the electrical problem was due to insufficient wiring. Ms. Toscano also informed Council that the problem with the touch screen terminal screens "burning out" constantly has been solved by having automatic timers which turn the machines off at midnight and turn them on again at 6:00am.

Mr. Emond updated Council on the incident in the Hall Building on Thursday, September 24th. A group of approximately 30 protesters came into the Hall Building Lobby unannounced to publicize the plight of the Chilean refugees. There was an altercation between University Security and the protesters. The Police were called. At this time our information on what actually transpired is not complete. Mr. Emond has asked Dr. Boisvert, Dean of Students, and Mr. Bujold, Director of Security, to prepare a report on the incident and our response to it. This report should be available shortly.

Ms Ryan asked for clarification re the inter-library loan system. Mr. Curran confirmed that provisions are made for both graduate and under-graduate students but as the loans must be guaranteed, the process for the undergraduate students takes longer.

8.2 Ratification of appointments to Special Projects Committee

The following names were put forward as student representation on the CCSL Special Projects Committee: Mr. W. Kennedy (graduate), Ms T. Ryan (undergraduate), Mr. D. Hinton (undergraduate) and were approved by Council.

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Friday, October 23, 1998, 10:00am H 769.

10. TERMINATION OF MEETING

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Ms Ghadban, seconded by Dr. Graub.

The motion was passed